# GREAT SPORT AFIELD.

Hunting and Fishing Stories From All Around.

# THE CUNNING OF DUMB BRUTES.

Interesting Studies for All Lovers of Nature.

Wild Geese in Connecticut-A Great Year for the Honkers-Some Remarkable Shots Made by Hunters-Nip-and-tuck Struggles in the Water with Wounded Birds-Bringing Down a Wild Goose with a Rife Bullet-Goy, Church's Lucky Otter Chase-Great Flocks Lures by the Giaring Are Lights-Incidents of the Sport.

Nonwich, May 25 .- The season has been a remarkable one for wild geese. Not only did the big birds come earlier and in greater numbers than ordinarily, but they have tarried phenomenally late. The earliest flocks came in the first week in March, and a Lyme hunter shet one on March 10. Some of the flocks were of gigantic size. It was not unusual in April to see a flock churning the sky that numbered 200 birds, and a fisherman plodding across the lenely hills of North Sterling in that month counted 200 gray fellows in a flock driving overhead at a great elevation; then bis patience gave out, for he had not countthe geese. But the extraordipary tardiness of the birds in quitting the coast and the inland grounds of southern New England is what most excites the astonishment of ornithologists and sportsmen. It seemed as if they were loath to quit the blooming summer land, that never was more eschantingly garnished, for bleak sub-arctic winds. It is extremely rare that wild geese in their northern migration linger on the Long Island and Connecticut shores later than the middle of April, and hardly once in twenty years, perhaps, is a wild goose seen in this region as late as the first of May. But this season not less than half a dozen flocks were

region as late as the first of May. But this season not less than half a dozen flocks were seen as late as May 10, and it is not improbable that there are a few lotterers along Long Island Sound at this date.

On May 3 a Newination correspondent of the Hartford Times wrote that a flock of wild geese aignted in a mill pond in that town on the date noted; and another observer. H. L. Osborn of Meriden, reported to the same journal that he saw a flock of thirty or forty going northward on May 11. He auded:

"I think this case is almost exceptional. They are generally so fat and lazy by the middle of April as to make flying very laborious, and are then as a rule easy to approach.

Mr. Osborn's account had barely seen published before L. W. Harnes of Biantic, in this county, reported a flock of eighteen or twenty birds passing north over Crescent Beach, in that place, on the evening of May 14. Mr. Barnes as noted that on April 27 Mr. Manigin of the Mingret House. Nantic, knocked down a big gray goose with a charge of shot, wounding it so that his dog drove it out of the bird is still in the coop, and so nearly domesticated that it cats freely.

During this spring the bunters have had great fun in this part of the State Bhooting wild grees. Nover before in a season were so many killed or cantured alive. Almost every evening or early morning the waters of the salt bayous along the Connecticut and Bhode island constand the waters of the salt bayous along the Connecticut and Bhode island constand the water waters to run down through mendow or swamp and drop a small handful of No. 1 or No. 2 shot into the unwary commany. Often two or three big gese were killed or knocked out at a shot, and then the sportsman, reckless of a ducking, tokki much the first water with a wounded but placky bird, and the nips from the bird's but placky and int part eriches: sometimes he had a nip-

hunters in this neighborhood had the luck to bring down two or three wild geese at a single ghot, a son of Selectinan Lillibridge, who killed a goose and a gander, both hig birds, on a pond a mile or so from town, being one of the successful markemen. Everett Tryon of Paconsotte Point, also made a very fair shot, the goose he killed being knocked over at fifteen rods with No. 6 peliets.

Several curious incidents have been recorded of wild geese this season. At North Sterling a farmer saw a flock of 160, going north without a leader. It was trying to follow the barrow-shaped model, but at its point, instead of one bird, there were three and sometimes four birds. He watched the flock till it passed out of sight, but in that time no single pilot took command. For a year Mr. C. H. Crandall, at Burden's Pond, R. L. had a couple of wild geese that had become parily domesticated, and he let them have their freedom with the rest of his flowis; but one day this spring they disappeared, and the farmer believed they had deserted him. Consequently great was his surprise a few days are when the goese appeared in the house yard, bringing with them six young gosilings that were as lively as crickets. The old geese had been gone nearly two months, attending strictly to business. J. E. Doane of Essex, on the Connecticut River, caught a wild goose alive that he had crippled with a gunshot a week or more ago. At old Saybrook a wild goose had been on exhibition at the farm of Justus Doane. It was seen by a farm hand in a lot on the Saybrook road, apparently exhausted, and was unable to fly, although it seemed to be unipured. The man easily caught it. Its weight was more than twenty pounds. At Wyasaup Lake, among the wooded hills of North Stonington, a flock of twenty wild geese dropped into the water, and ayoung man from a steam saw mill there got his gun, and with three or four of the mill hands crept to the edge of the pond, but the geese had one exhibition. After twenty persons had viewed it with admiration, Palmer L. Mains ca

WILD FOWL AND WILD RICK.

## If You Want Bucks a Plenty Prepare

Proper Food Supply for Them. PORT HOPE, Ontario, May 24 .- No complaint is more frequently heard among sportsmen and gunners than that of the growing scarcity of wild fowl. Where have the ducks gone to? Where can a man be sure of finding a day's sport with the ducks? The quest for day or two ago, as full of spawn as good wild fowl shooting, except a man be happily located or have a fat purse, is growing more hopeless year by year. To the questions asked there are usually but two answers. ducks have been well nigh exterminated by in-judicious shooting, and there is no use looking for a day's sport with the ducks unless you are prepared to pay a dollar or two a pound for all the ducks bagged. There are a pleuty of places in the country which once swarmed with ducks where now the gunner thinks himself fucky if he gets a brace or two as a reward for a day's shivering in the blind or in the coffin-shaped battery. It is mighty poor consolation for him to say that wild fowl and civilization cannot exist together; that the advance of the plough and the ditcher must needs drive out the ducks.

While it is true that the draining of swamps and lakes must of necessity send the wild fowl elsewhere, and injudicious shooting means extermination, sportsmen are beginning to understand that the abundance of ducks in a certain locality depends a deal more on the abundance of the supply of duck food than it does

here has a house 40x85 feet with two floors. He spreads the grain aix inches deep over these floors, and turns it or shovels it over three times a day for two weeks before it is ready for market. It is then packed in barrels and sold at \$1.50 a bushel to United States customers, while the Canadian must pay \$2.

The quantity to be sowed depends on circumstances. If one wants to get a large number of ducks into his neighborhood quickly he must sow wild rice liberally. A pond near this place, that is about 200x500 yards in size, was sowed with ten bushels as an experiment. The rice flourished, and within a rear ducks came in in abundance. Of course, a pond of that size would not bear shooting over daily. The wild rice sows itself when once started. All other plants and weeds give way before it. If sowed in marshes bordering a stream the atteam will spread it. The ducks themselves help to spread it. The wind will spread it.

The processe of sewing is simple. The grain should be soaked in water over night, although this is not necessary. When soaked it immediately sinks where it fails on the water. If sowed dry the wind may drift it all to the lee side of the pond. Take it in a boat and throw it broadcast over the water. Sow it late in the fail. No further attention need be given the matter than to order a sunply of cartridges just before the duck season opens next year.

There are a number of localities where wild rice can be had by sportsmen. Those who wish to learn the address of dealers can do so by consulting the advertising columns of the Sunday Sun during the months of August and September.

Uncle Charley Stratton Tells About the

Singular Habits of Ests. LAREWOOD, May 25 .- "Lamper eels is meer fish," said Uncle Charley Stratton, as he stood looking at the half a hundred lampreys that were playing about the floodgates of the dam which makes the pretty sheets of water whence this village derives the first part of its name. "They can do almost anything but

Uncle Charley Stratton-he is uncle to every man, woman, and child of the native population of Lakewood-is the oldest trapper and angler in this vicinity. He it was who killed the last bear over seen here, and that was fifty years or more ago. He is three-core-and-ten years old, and has been on intimate terms with imprey cels and turtles all his life.

"These lamper sels," he continued, "have been several days getting here from the salt water of Barnegat Bay, ten miles below here. They always follow up the big suckers that you see the boys spearing along the brook. The suckers run up this stream to spawn, and the lampers come after them to eat up the fish roe. That's what they live on, and as long as they can get the spawn they don't eat anything else. The big lampers that you see down there on the sheeting are, or were a stream to spawn, too, and the snapping turtles, and the little red-bellied turtles, when they can and the little red-bellied turties, when they can get a chance and the snappers ain't watching them eat their spawn. Snappers are also very fond of lampers, and this is the time of year to get snappers along the brook. Not long ago I was down the stream fishing for snappers. I had about twenty-live hooks set and baited, and was moving quietly along the bank, when I saw a big snapper's head come out of the water. He had a big lamper in his mouth, and they were fairly churning the water into a froth. Snappers was my game that day, and I stepped softly like into the brook. I was waist deep when I got hold of the snapper's tail. I gave him a yank before he knew I was there.

"He had caught the cell not far from his fail, and the cell was doing his best to sink his fangs into the soft part of the terrie's under law. If he'd got his hold there it would have been all day with the snapper. No snapper can't stand that sort of a bite. He lets go right away, and when the lamper lets go of him he bleeds to death or becomes heighess in about ten minutes. Well, this iamper must have seen me when I took hold of the turtie, for, quicker than I can tell you, he struck the back of the hand I wasn't using. His teeth went in up to the roots, and the snetton was something frightful. You know the upper naw of a lamner is as full of teeth as a fine-tooth comb. When I get fast to a thirty-pound snapper I generally hold on, and I dilabit let go that time. Neither did the eel. He had come to stay, and although the snapper had let go of the lamper it didn't seem to make any difference to him. He was mad clean through, and seemed to forget all about the snapper. I hurried out to the bank with the turtie in one hand and the lamper it didn't seem to make any difference to him. He was mad clean through, and seemed to forget all about the snapper. I hurried out to the lank with the turtie in one hand and the snaper is generally hold on, and I didn't seemed to forget all about the snapper. I hurried out to the lank with the turtie in one says, get a chance and the snappers ain't watching them, eat their spawn. Spappers are also very

four or five floodgate dams to get there, and they all get over just the same way. They live on frog and fish spawn. No, they don't come back—at least not many of them. They bury themselves in the mud when the cold weather comes on and stay there until it gets warm again. Lels is awfullcold-blooded, worse than frogs. I guess. There's a great prejudice against lampers among people here. I was the same way when I was a boy, and used to spear them just as the boys do now. We all believed they was pizen then, and every nice coys in ten will tell you that they are gizen now. But they ain't. Why. Capt. Mike Ortley, who owned Ortley's Beach, list below Mantoloking when I was a young man, was always ready to trade a barrel of nork for a barrel of lampers. A Laurel House man told me the other day, while we stood here watching them, that a big Englishman died after eating a dish of lampers. I thought he was tryin' to skeer me a little, so I said to him. There was a man died here once after swallowin's fish bone. Mebbe he lied, but I told the truth. Talk about a cat having nine lives, lampers must have about eighteen. They die harder than a lie about a wonan, and, as I said a little while ago, lamper cels is very queer."

### BRINGING UP BEARS BY HAND. Two Cubs Take the Bottle as Readily as

Some Statesmen, WATERTOWN, May 25 .- The bear crop in Lewis county is exceedingly abundant this year, and the old woodsmen are having great luck in harvesting it white it is yet in its tender infancy. A few days ago L. C. Cummings, who lives in the town of Oscoola, captured two cubs about eight weeks old, and he is now carefully rearing them as pets for his children. Herbert Morse, another hunter, went Mr. Cummings one better on his latest bear hunt, for he not only captured a pair of cubs but the scalp of the mother bear as well. The cubs were about four weeks old and, as Mr. Morse had no children, he concluded that he would offer to sell them to Landlord H. V. Warner of Lowville for his Thousand Island Park menagerie. Of course Mr. Warner jumped at the chance. He bought the cubs which were not quite so large as full-grown woodchucks, and straightway found that he had his hands full.

The cubs had not been weaned, and were still too young to be keptexolusively on a meat dief. How to feed them was a perplexing question, but it was soon solved by Mr. Warner going to the village drug store, where he purchased one of those glass bottles with a soft rubber attachment from which the incipient Lewis county statesman is sometimes made to take nourishment. No statesman from that nursery of statesmen ever took more kindly to the bottle than did Mr. Warner's two bear cubs. They fought for the first chance at it, and cows milk seemed to agree with them. The trouble of holding the bottle nuntil their appetites were satisfied however, was a wearying task, it finally became so irksome that Mr. Warner offered to loan his bears to anybody who would feed and care for them in a proper manner. E. Goodlade of this city secured them and just them in the window of his clothing store, which was appropriately fitted up for their reception. The cubs attract about as much attention as Barnum's menagerie when it comes to town. Though young they are full of tricks, and the people never tire of watching their froites.

The favorite position of the cubs for taking their nourishment is from the top round in the back of a high armchair which stands in the little enclosure. From this perch either one of them will take down a quart of milk at a sitting without the least trouble. They are as tame as kittens, and are going to be great cards at the St. Lawrence. Mr. Warner wanted to call his pets Tom and Jerry, but as they were of opposite sex he has d mings one better on his latest bear hunt for he not only captured a pair of cubs but the

## BRIGHT WITTED ANIMALS.

### New Anecdotes Showing the Intelligence of Onr Humble Compunions.

SCRANTON, May 25 .- Early in May an expert artisan came here from New York to do some fine inside work on a Scranton man's new house. It was going to take him three or four weeks to do the job, and while he and the owner of the premises were standing near the side entrance, just before the work was begun, the owner said: "As you are to be in my employ for some time. I would like to know what

sent them yelping from the saloon, and it was also true that those dogs never stuck their noses into that rum shop again. They were different dogs from the one that followed a tall hotel cierk to the door of the saloon one day this spring. He was a white buildog with one black eye, and he was noted for watching for cats all night long and snoozing around the stove during a good part of the day. He had the reputation, too, of never weakening when a cat ripped silts in his nose, and at the time he tagged the clerk his nesal organ was covered and beautifully decorated with both Iresh and half-healed soratches. He wasn't happy unless he had a few scratches on his nose clear up to his eyes, and the number of cats that he was known to have killed was close on to a hundred. When the clerk opened the saloon door he saw the big tomeat on top of a table, and he told the white buildog to go back. Oh, let him come in. said the proprietor. He'll kill your cat if I do," the clerk told him, "and I don't want him to do that." Then the saloon man was interested, and he said: "He will, en? Well, I never saw a dog vet that could lick my cat, and I'll tet you a V my cat'll clean him out in two minutes by the waiteh"

"I won't bet a cent, but I say the dog'll kill your cat as sure as I let him in." the clerk declared. The saloon keeper protested, and he clerk called the buildog back and let him in. He spied the cat right away, and he bounded toward the table like a flash. The cat met him haif way and clawed open some of the cld wonds on his nose and made the blood sourt, but thelbuildog didn't turn tail, as all the other degs had done: neither did lie yelp or whine. There was a brief yet very lively tus-le, and the saloon keeper's beautiful black tomeat lay kicking with a broken back. The white buildog with a black eye and a bloody nose gave the dying cat one more shake and wassatisfied. The saloon man was disappointed and very unhappy, and the clerk said: I told you so.

A man in Old Forge township owns two male canary birds that

### MY EEL, SAID THE SNAKE.

But a Blow From an Oar Just Then Killed the Largest Water Saske of Lakewood, Lakewood, May 25 .- A water snake surprised a rowing party on Lake Carasaljo yestorting itself into a hundred shapes when first seen, and was so busily engaged that it permitted the boat to come within less than an ordinary oar's length. The snake had captured an eel and was making a tremendous effort to swallow it, while the eel was resisting with all it slippery tacties and vibratory strength. After a protrated struggle the snake was able to get about two and a half inches of the cel down, when it paused, as if to rest before renewing the swallowing process. The snakes mouth was tightly closed over and beyond the cel's head, and the cel scemed to be weakening under the smothering class of its enemy. Such air as there was in the vicinity of the cel's tills was being eshausted by the enist, still was being cahausted by the snake, and the cel was in a very tight place. The situation excited the compassion of one of the occupants of the boat to such an extent that he could not resist the impulse to bring one of the cars down upon the snake with such murderous effect as to simultaneously despatch the reptile and rut an end to a very interesting study in reptilla. The naturalist of the party brought the snake and cel into the boat, the latter being still held, but not so tightly as before, in the mouth of the snake. The cel was released and measured, its length being littoen inches. The snake measured sixty-seven inches in length and six and a quarter inches in circumference at the largest part of the body. The cel, showing sixns of resuscitation, was laid in the water and soon began feebly to wriggle about, and doubtless fully recovered. The snake was one of the largest, if not the largest, of its kind ever found in this vicinity. was able to get about two and a half inches of

### TROUT AND BASS.

## Fine Fishing and Lurge Catches in the Ad-

The control of the co

ahlp's figure was not quite as pretty as it used to be. He was all bunions, knots, and boile, and he had evidently grown much stouter, when the truth dawned upon Mrs. Deris that the reptile had swallowed her five-dollar blanket. Medical aid was summoned and he was given a keg of heer with which to wash the blanket down, and at last accounts he was as chipper and frisky as a two-year-old. The doctors claim that it will be just as easy for the sanske to digest the blanket as the live chickens and rabbits, feathers, fur, bones, and all, on which he lives. A new blanket was furnished him last hight, but this time it was nailed down to the floor of the cage.

### The Duck Hunter's Castle.

The Duck Hunter's Castle.

From Form and Stream.

With a genuine femial independence, the Lake Chamolain duck shooter may claim that his blind is also castle. It is undoubtedly the most elaborate affair of the kind in use among the wild fewlers of the country. Totally unlike the bush blind of the teastern rivers, the need blind of the West, or the box blind of the South, it stands onlite alone as a representative type of field architecture. It is, in lact, a ministure house, equipped with all the parapherania of domestic economy, thoroughly provisioned, and affitted out to stand a siege of six weeks bombardment by the great army of southward-flying ducks. Let us take a peep at one of these Lake Champlain blinds.

The house part of the blind is very nearly equano, about five by six feet and five and a half feet high. It has a sloping roof to shed rain, a door at the front end, and a small window at one side. On the opposite side there is a board side which can be enemed to provide ale and furnish an outlook. Across the back end—the ends being the long sides of the blind—are two bunks or berths, one over the other. A wide shell under the board slide answers the purpose of a table. Heat and cooking facilities are furnished by a small oil stove standing in one corner by the door. In the other corner is the "armory," a rack in which are placed the guns of the blind—are the cupant of occupants of the blind, convenient for immediate use. A cupboard under the lower berth contains the dishes, cooking utensils, ammunition, Ac. of the garrison, while a big chest, answering also the purpose of a bench, stands conveniently beneath the shell, packed with provisions and other perishable supplies of the gunners. So much for the interior of the house part of the blind. The door opens upon a platform about three and a half feet which, railed all around and heavily oushed with evergreen boughs, so that it looks like a dark-green mound standing on the edge, or in the shillow water.

An Ophidan Bonnars.

### An Ophidian Bonnnga, From the St. Louis Republic.

An Ophidian Bonnes.

Prom the St. tout Republic.

On Saturday, April 27, James McCalan, a young man residing on Walnut creek, near Index, Mo., was squirrel hunting. Noticing his dog barking furiously, he went forward. The object of the dog's attention was an enormous black snake, which, when killed, measured fourteen feet nine inches. The republic stood perfectly or et for about four feet of its leagth, and seemed unable to move the middle part of its body at all.

Although somewhat abashed by the formidable appearance of the recible, Jim was not its body at all.

Although somewhat abashed by the formidable appearance of the recible, Jim was not the spot where its body seemed bound to the earth, so he picked up a stout club and striking the monster several blows upon its head, which it was weaving about in the air, soon despatched it. He was again astonished when, attempting to raise the monster up on his stick, he was unable to lift it? In the ground.

About that time he saw a diction on the road. Calling upon him for sistance, they out the snake open at the part where the immense weight was located. They took from its body an old boot leg thome of together at each end, and containing something so heavy they could securely lift it. Great was their surprise and joy when, upon cutting onen the boot leg, it was found to be filled with gold coins from 1 up to \$20.

The only plausible explanation is this. It is well known by parties living here that during the late war a party of luch whackers buried a boot leg full of gold sem-where on Walnut Creek. The monster was found near a small ravine, where it is supposed the gold was washed out of its hiding place and lound by the snake.

## A Dog Henrs Rad News by Telephone.

# CRISP FORMS OF THOUGHT.

SOLOMON AND TUPPLE TWISTED TO SUIT A MODERN TRADE.

The Wisdom of the Sngrs and the Wit of the Musses, Even the Work of the Mis-sionaries, are Grist in the Mill-They are Ponched Upon by Authors and Ad-

Whether Solomon invented all his proverbs, or gathered them from many sources with a nicer sense of permanent worth than Mr. Tupper exercised in his later compendium. is and over will be an open question, Solomon's copyright ran out long before l'upper's time and both are now peached upon with impunity by all classes, from authors to advertisers. But, taken by themselves, proverbe well repay careful study. Students of ethnology find in the proverbs of the different races the clearest proofs of their real characteristics, for they are the shrewdest and yet most intimate expressions of their daily life.

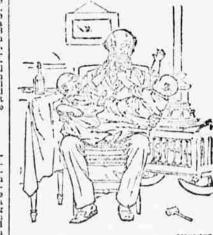
Judged by the comparison of these homely savings it will be found that all nations are of one kindred, possessing common needs, common aspirations, and seeking similar reliefs from toil and labor. On the dustiest shelves of our libraries may be found collections of all the proverbs of the different nations, quite a large proportion of the work having resulted from the interest which missionaries have taken in their earnest studies of the uncivilized peoples whom they seek to instruct. That the shrewd sayings of the Scotch or the bright hits of the Irish should be carefully collected gives little cause for surprise; but a collection of Abyssinian proverbs, of those of the Tamil language, of Icelandic lore, of the Sanscrit, South Sea Island, Chinese, and Hottentot Solemons does excite curiosity. The missionaries have found it a pleasant as well as a. profitable task. It delves deep into the idioms of the language, tells with unerring accuracy the mental tendency of the people, and by introducing the foreigner into the inner thought of both home and trade shows him the real life of those who adopt them as every-day expres-

It is impossible to read the well-colinted proverbs of the Chinese without realizing that a home life exists in that flowery kingdom which rivals that of many more civilized countries. No Solomon, no descendant of Abraham. could eclipse the trade proverbs of the Chinese. They touch on trade with a keenness and thoroughness which proves them to be masters in that school. The baser life of the Hottentot, the loose morals of the fellah, the independent spirit of the Briton, are all crystallized in their

national proverbs. In England and many other countries it was In England and many other countries it was formerly very usual for a tradesman to solect some proverb as his motto, and thus post his principles plainly over his shop door. It remained however, for an American house to appropriate the proverbs of the world on masse and use them for their own assumement. New Yorkers who rid on the elevated roads, or people who in less havored localities still log along in the slow street cars, are familiar with the bine and white protects which proclaim the merits of Sapoll, to the world. Every omnibus in London and almost every "tram car" in England is similarly adorned.

Thoy made their first appearance on the Broadway combines, were gathered out of over 1,000 pages of the world's collections, and twisted to suit the case. Many of them are beyond easy recognition in their new dress, many are entirely original, but these are also printed between inverted commas, which lends a glamor of antimity to them. To day we are told that over 2,000 of those blue cards are displayed in public c nyestness carrying over 0,000,00 passengers taily.

Condensed thought properative requires padding to make it intelligible to the masses, just a the stomach of the hore masses, just as the stomach of the hore masses, just as the stomach of the hore masses, mat as the stomach of the hore masses, mat as the stomach of the hore masses, just as the stomach of the hore masses, mat as the stomach of the hore masses and brevity which pleases the public, as the dietionary did the old Scotch woman. "They are brevity which pleases the public, as the dietionary did the old Scotch woman." They are breve the old seed to work of the sole, they are breve to the did seed to the safe of the proverbe the advice. "Be patient and you will be proved the advice which follows, not to fret over house cleaning, but do it easily with Sapollo? And who an repress a smile when the Sapollo folione artist felteres the native for the proverb formerly very usual for a tradesman to select





Bunday Sunke Fights.

From the A Lexis Gobe Democrat

EL PASO, Tex., May 25.—A ferredly contested fight between a catamount and a building that came of last Saturday might at one of this bord variety theatres has stimulated in received and the last staturday might at one of this local variety theatres has stimulated in received and the last staturday might at one of this local variety theatres has stimulated in received and the last staturday might at one of the last staturday might be a large and fashfonatic Sunday resert, says he will have at the last staturday from the same and something entirely new in the way of around short small staturday around El Faco enterities and something entirely new in the way of around short something entirely new in the way of around something entirely new in the way of around something entirely new in the way of around the last staturday around El Faco enterities and bullsmakes that will fight for the decelution and anusement of all such El Paso citizens as don't go to church on Sunday.

Welves Hunter's to Their B is,

From the St. Lexis Gobe Lexison at the same of the same points and the same of the